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(71) Applicant: HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Palo Alto, California 94304-1181 (US)

(72) Inventors:
• Brink, Gregory D.
McMinnville, Oregon 97128 (US)

• Benvegar, Carl E.
McMinnville, Oregon 97128 (US)
• Ochs, Dennis E.
Seattle WA 98121-1045 (US)
• Andrews, Jonathan N.
Monmouth, Oregon 97361 (US)

(74) Representative: Colgan, Stephen James et al
CARPMAELS & RANSFORD
43 Bloomsbury Square
London WC1A 2RA (GB)

(54) Battery powered electronic device for exchanging information with a battery mailbox

(57) An electronic device (80), such as a defibrillator/heart monitor, monitors a battery (30) having a memory (40) for an error condition while the battery is operating the device. If the battery support unit (20) finds an error condition with the battery, it transmits error data (51) to a mailbox (50) located in the battery's memory. Other electronic devices or battery support units, or

even this electronic device at a later date, can read the error data in the mailbox and take an appropriate action. For example, the electronic device can read the mailbox and, if it finds error data placed there by itself, another electronic device, or a battery support unit, enable an indicator (62), such as an indicator that informs a user that maintenance needs to be performed on the battery.

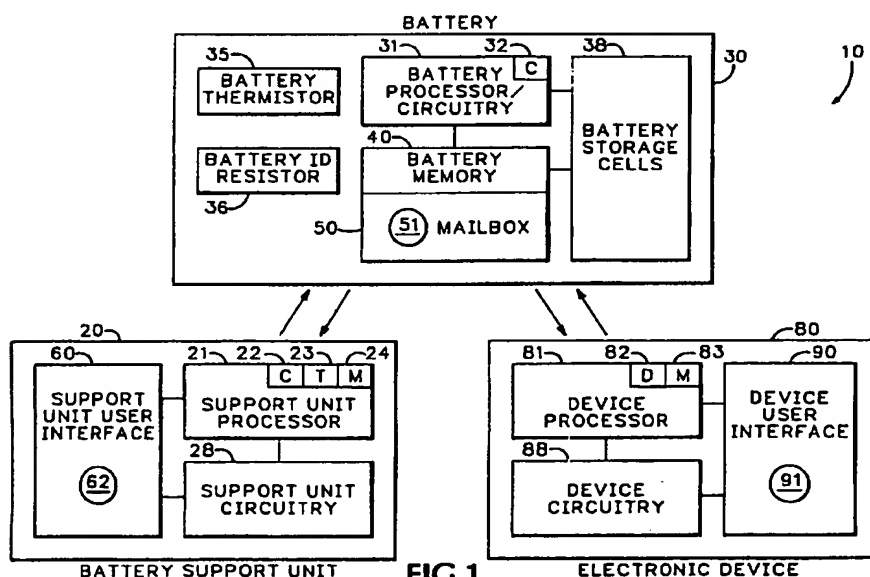


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 3271

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 10 February 1997	Examiner Fritz, S
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application I : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 3271

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
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